

trails. This does not allow for those who were nervous about this, there is no...there's not trail money that goes through this Light-Density Rail Assistance Act. This is to broaden it out. For those of you who have other potential abandoned lines, if you want to be able to use any of the loan funds or any of the project monies, you need to have 463 advance because it's going to broaden the ability to use those things. What it doesn't do, of course, is provide for a source of money. In other words, we're not sinking more money into the act. That's going to have to be done with other mechanisms. Again, it is not a trails bill so that there's a secret way or a mechanism to funnel more money in to buy up rail lines for trails, but this is merely to add our flexibility to broaden it out to more than just one rail line and really undo a little of what we did in 1991, which was probably a good policy but just needs to apply to the whole state at this time. I'd be happy to answer any questions and that would constitute my opening, Mr. President.

SPEAKER WITHEN: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Withen, if I could address a couple of questions to Senator Kristensen.

SPEAKER WITHEN: Senator Kristensen, do you have...would you respond to questions?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Just...

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Sure.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...just two or three things quickly, Senator Kristensen. You know this...

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...I think you're probably aware this whole concept of subsidizing railroads was a subject of heated debates in the Legislature not too many years ago.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes, I think I was involved in one of those.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. There are three things I wanted to ask